

**RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER****MAY 20 2005****IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application No. : 10/753,071 Confirmation No. : 5429
First Named Inventor : Tadashi NARITA
Filed : January 8, 2004
TC/A.U. : 1713
Examiner : H. S. Hu

Docket No. : 038788.53145US
Customer No. : 23911

Title : Fluorine-Containing Compounds, Fluorine-Containing
Polymerizable Monomers, Fluorine-Containing Polymers,
Dissolution Inhibitors, and Resist Compositions

REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION**Mail Stop AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action mailed April 21, 2005 in the above-identified patent application, applicants hereby provisionally elect the claims of Group II, namely claims 4-17 and 20. This provisional election is made with traverse.

The requirement for restriction is respectfully traversed because it is based on the erroneous conclusion that the three groups are mutually exclusive. This is incorrect. Claim 1 is generic to all of the claims of the application and thus embraces all of the subject matter of claims 4-20 as well as that of claims 2 and 3. The Office Action mistakenly asserts that claims 1-3 are drawn to non-polymerizable compounds, whereas claims 4-17 and 20 are drawn to polymerizable monomers and claims 18 and 19 are drawn to dissolution inhibitors. However, claim 1 embraces the polymerizable monomers of claims 4-17 and 20, as well as the dissolution inhibitors of claims 18 and 19. The statements of intended use as monomers or as dissolution inhibitors are not distinguishing structural features which can serve to exclude the compounds of claims 4-20 from the scope of compound claim 1. No basis is seen for attempting to restrict a generic claim

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away from narrower claims falling totally within the scope of that generic claim. On the contrary, generic claim 1 is a linking claim which links the respective subgenres of the other claims (See M.P.E.P. §809.03). Attention is specifically directed to M.P.E.P. §809 which specifically provides that a linking claim, such as instant claim 1, must be examined with the elected group. Thus, claim 1 must be examined with the provisionally elected claims 4-17 and 20. Accordingly, the requirement for restriction should be withdrawn and the claimed subject matter examined in its full scope.

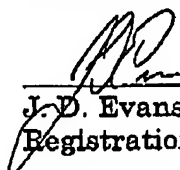
Prompt, favorable action on the application is earnestly solicited.

If there are any questions regarding this Reply or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned at (202) 624-2845 would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #038788.53145US).

Respectfully submitted,

May 20, 2005

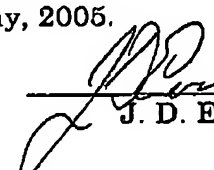

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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

The undersigned hereby certifies that the foregoing Reply to Office Action is being transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office by facsimile transmission to (703) 872-9306 this 20th day of May, 2005.


J. D. Evans

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